

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
CPR-01 IO-13 /078 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2336
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PGOV, IS
SUBJECT: MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT KATZIR

REF: TEL AVIV 4324

1. AS DEPARTMENT IS AWARE
ISRAEL SOON WILL ELECT A NEW PRESIDENT
TO SUCCEED PROF. KATZIR. WE SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT
CONSIDER A PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE TO KATZIR AS
HE STEPS DOWN FROM OFFICE. OUR FILES DO NOT CONTAIN
DOCUMENTS FROM EARLIER CHANGES IN THE PRESIDENCY AND
WE ARE UNABLE TO CONFIRM ANY PRECEDENT FOR SUCH A MESSAGE.
HOWEVER, WE BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY
USEFUL AND APPROPRIATE IN VIEW OF THE PRESENT STATE OF
U.S./ISRAELI RELATIONS. KATZIR IS DUE TO LEAVE OFFICE
AT THE END OF MAY AND A MESSAGE TIMED FOR DELIVERY TO
HIM THE WEEK OF MAY 22 WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

2. THE DEPARTMENT WILL ALSO WISH TO CONSIDER A
PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW
PRESIDENT-ELECT. AS REPORTED IN REFTEL, IT NOW APPEARS
IT WILL BE YITZHAK NAVON AND THE ELECTION IS SCHEDULED
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TO TAKE PLACE ON APRIL 19.

3. WE SUGGEST THAT THE MESSAGE TO KATZIR INCLUDE PRESIDENT
CARTER'S CONGRATULATIONS FOR A JOB WELL DONE AND
SAY THAT HE HAS BEEN IMPRESSED WITH THE EFFECTIVE AND
DIGNIFIED MANNER IN WHICH KATZIR HAS REPRESENTED
THE ISRAELI PEOPLE. THE PRESIDENT COULD NOTE THAT KATZIR

HAS FULFILLED THE FUNCTIONS OF HIS OFFICE IN DIFFICULT AND MOMENTOUS TIMES (KATZIR HAS BEEN PRESIDENT SINCE 1973, I.E., DURING THE YOM KIPPUR WAR, U.S. REAPPRAISAL, SINAI I AND II, AND THE SADAT VISIT). THE PRESIDENT COULD ALSO EXTEND HIS BEST WISHES FOR KATZIR'S FUTURE HEALTH AND WELL BEING AND THE HOPE THAT KATZIR COULD CONTINUE HIS WORTHWHILE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ISRAEL THROUGH CONTINUATION OF HIS SCIENTIFIC WORK.

4. THE MESSAGE TO THE PRESIDENT-ELECT BE A SHORTER MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS FOR HIS ELECTION, BEST WISHES FOR THE TASKS FACING HIM, AND A REMINDER OF THE CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF ISRAEL AND THE U.S.
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Message Attributes

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